

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A lottery ticket comprising:

- a) a first play area comprising a plurality of first jig-saw type puzzle pieces imprinted therein, each having an irregular shape and at least one first irregular shaped mating surface adapted to mate to a complimentary mating surface of at least one other first jig-saw type puzzle piece, said first jig-saw type puzzle pieces being covered by a removable scratch-off layer;
- b) a second play area comprising at least one second play region, each second play region containing at least two second jig-saw type puzzle pieces imprinted therein, up to all of the second jig-saw type puzzle pieces finding correspondence with first jig-saw type puzzle pieces which are exposed after removal of the scratch-off layer which may be of the same shape as one or more first jig-saw type puzzle pieces located in the first play area; and
- c) a jig-saw puzzle piece identification system comprising identification means first indicia appearing on at least some of the corresponding first and second jig-saw type puzzle pieces and second indicia appearing on all of the second jig-saw type pieces wherein a match of first and second indicia is indication of a match between first and second jig-saw type puzzle pieces for identifying if there is a match between first jig-saw puzzle pieces and second jig-saw puzzle pieces eliminating the need for placing the pieces upon each other,

wherein if at least two second jig-saw type puzzle pieces in a second play region are matched with first jig-saw type puzzle pieces in the first play area a prize may be won.

Claim 2 (original): The lottery ticket of claim 1 wherein the at least two second jig-saw type puzzle pieces are mated to each other or at least one other second jig-saw type puzzle piece through a mating surface.

Claim 3 (original): The lottery ticket of claim 2 wherein the at least one mating surface comprises at least one projection or cavity or combination thereof complimentary in shape to a corresponding projection or cavity in the mating surface of another first jig-saw type puzzle piece.

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Claim 4 (original): The lottery ticket of claim 1 comprising a plurality of second play regions.

Claim 5 (original): The lottery ticket of claim 1 wherein the first play area comprises a plurality of individual spaces, each space containing at least one first jig-saw type puzzle piece.

Claim 6 (original): The lottery ticket of claim 4 wherein each of the second play regions contains the same number of second jig-saw type puzzle pieces.

Claim 7 (original): The lottery ticket of claim 4 wherein not all of the second play regions contain the same number of second jig-saw type puzzle pieces.

Claim 8 (original): The lottery ticket of claim 1 wherein the first play region comprises a plurality of individual spaces, each space containing at least one first jig-saw type puzzle covered by a scratch-off layer, wherein up to all of the first jig-saw type puzzle pieces are exposed by removing the scratch-off layer.

Claim 9 (original): The lottery ticket of claim 8 wherein less than all of the first jig-saw type puzzle pieces are exposed by removal of the scratch-off layer.

Claim 10 (original): The lottery ticket of claim 1 further comprising a bonus section containing at least one first jig-saw type puzzle piece.

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Claim 11 (original): The lottery ticket of claim 1 further comprising at least one bonus game region in the second play area.

Claim 12 (original): The lottery ticket of claim 1 wherein at least one of the first and second jig-saw type puzzle pieces comprises an instant win feature.

Claim 13 (original): The lottery ticket of claim 1 wherein the second jig-saw type puzzle pieces in at least one of the second play regions forms a pattern.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The lottery ticket of claim 1 wherein the second play area comprises a plurality of second play regions, at least two of the second play regions having different patterns comprised of different jig-saw type puzzle pieces.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The lottery ticket of claim 14 wherein all of the second play regions have different patterns of different jig-saw type puzzle pieces.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The lottery ticket of claim 1 wherein the identification means first and second indicia comprises at least one symbol printed on the jig-saw type puzzle pieces.